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JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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VOLUME XLII.....NO. 118

AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

TONY PASTOR'S NEW THEATRE.

UNION SQUARE THEATRE.

FERREOL, at 8 P. M. C. R. Thorne, Jr.

PARIS THEATRE.

VARIETY, at 8 P. M. Miss Minnie Palmer.

PARK THEATRE.

BRASS, at 8 P. M. George Fawcett Rowe.

CHATEAU MARILLIE VARIETIES.

at 8 P. M.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.

HUMPTY DUMPTY, at 8 P. M.

PARISIAN VARIETIES.

at 8 P. M. Matinee at 2 P. M.

DIXIE, at 8 P. M.

THIRTY FOURTH STREET OPERA HOUSE.

VARIETY, at 8 P. M.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE.

PIQUE, at 8 P. M. Fannie Davenport.

at 2 P. M. HOWE & CUSHING'S CIRCUS.

at 2 P. M.

GLOBE THEATRE.

VARIETY, at 8 P. M.

WOODS MUSEUM.

DONALD MCKAY, at 8 P. M. Oliver Bond Byron, Matinee at 2 P. M.

MURRAY'S CIRCUS.

afternoon and evening.

SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS.

at 8 P. M.

THEATRE COMIQUE.

VARIETY, at 8 P. M.

GERMANIA THEATRE.

MEIN LIEBOLD, at 8 P. M.

WALLACK'S THEATRE.

LONDON ASSURANCE, at 8 P. M. Lester Wallack.

at 8 P. M.

ROOTH'S THEATRE.

HENRY V., at 8 P. M. George Hignold, Vincent's Benedi, at 1:30 P. M.

MASONIC TEMPLE.

PROFESSOR CROMWELL'S ENTERTAINMENT, at 8 P. M.

BROOKLYN THEATRE.

FUN IN A FOG, at 8 P. M. Voke.

at 8 P. M.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC.

TONY PASTOR'S JUBILEE, at 8 P. M.

at 8 P. M.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE.

BARNUM'S SHOW, at 7 P. M.

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The Utica Convention—Governor Tilden's Prospects.

The delay and embarrassment at Utica caused by the contesting delegations will have no serious effect on the strength of Governor Tilden, who has so large a majority of the Convention that he is quite independent of the delegates from this city. The struggle between the Tammany and anti-Tammany contestants does not affect him in any other sense than that a division in the party might weaken it in the election. But there is really no danger that either faction would vote against him if he should be nominated for the Presidency by the Democratic National Convention. The split in this city is not a split between the supporters and opponents of Governor Tilden, but between rival cliques who aim to control the municipal government and appropriate its spoils. The same motives which impel the Morrissey organization to sue for recognition by the State Convention act with equal force on the Kelly organization in inciting it to efforts for retaining its prestige of regularity. Both factions supported the State ticket last fall, and they will support the national ticket next fall, whether the candidate be Governor Tilden or some other citizen. Moreover, neither faction makes any avowed opposition to the Governor, who has no particular interest in their quarrel.

Although the Utica Convention has not yet acted on the main business for which it was called, its tone and temper have become so well known as to leave no doubt of its devotion to Governor Tilden by a majority so large as to be overwhelming. The subdued and muttering opposition which he encounters will help him in other States, because it is certain to be interpreted as the growling of the corrupt rings which have been put down by his reforming hand. It is a great advantage to a candidate to have some easy and creditable way of accounting for such opposition as he encounters, and Governor Tilden's unrelenting war on corrupt rings gives him this advantage. If it should be said in other States, or said at St. Louis, that the democracy of New York is not unanimous for Tilden, it will be replied that this fact ought to strengthen him with honest men, because it proves that he has shown no mercy to the thieves of his own party. It will be said that the relics of the Canal Ring and the old Tammany Ring have abundant reasons for owing him a spite, and that their impotent enmity is the best possible evidence that he has not spared them and that his blows have been effectual. Their support would damage him more than their opposition. His victorious control of this Convention proves that democratic opponents who dog his heels have had their teeth extracted, and if they bark when they can no longer bite their barking is subdued to such a whine as to render them contemptible. This is the view which will be presented by Governor Tilden's friends to the democrats of other States, and it has reason enough, or, at least, plausibility enough, to be widely accepted.

No attempt will be made to pledge or instruct the New York delegates to St. Louis to vote for Governor Tilden; but as they will be required to vote as a unit the fact that he will have a majority of three or four to one in the delegation will be as serviceable to him as specific instructions if he should be strongly supported by other States. His victory at Utica will give him a prodigious lift in other parts of the country, and it is quite possible that he may enter the National Convention with very nearly a majority of the whole body of delegates. If he could only get an assured majority before the Convention meets, he would stand on very hopeful ground, because, in that event, his supporters could rescind the absurd two-thirds rule and make his nomination a certainty. His chances of being the democratic standard bearer are probably staked on his ability to secure a majority of the delegates from all the States in advance of the meeting of the Convention. His friends would then be able to abrogate the two-thirds rule in the initial proceedings, and they would have perfectly smooth sailing afterward. But with anything short of a majority at the outset the two-thirds rule will be maintained, which would engulf Mr. Tilden's hopes, for there is small likelihood that he could rise from less than a majority at the outset to two-thirds in any subsequent balloting. The supporters of all his rivals would stand out against him, confident of their ability to secure his defeat, and some Dark Horse or compromise candidate would come in at last and win the race.

It is the duty of Governor Tilden to act with reference to such a contingency. He must not permit his principles to be defeated because he cannot realize his personal hopes. The Utica Convention will adopt a platform of principles embodying the views of the Governor, and if the course of events should compel him to renounce his personal ambition he must take care that the cause does not suffer. It seems pretty certain that he will be strong enough to hold every other candidate in check, for he will have at least one-third of the delegates. He ought to lay his plans to convert this negative into a positive control if he finds that he cannot get the nomination himself. He is likely, in any event, to be strong enough to dictate the candidate by joining forces with some upright democrat who holds his sound views on public questions, and thus secure a triumph of more importance to the party than the personal success of any of its members. If the candidate should finally be taken from the West there is no prominent democratic statesman in that section whose nomination would be so wise as that of Senator Thurman, whom Governor Tilden could support without any compromise of his own principles; and if Mr. Thurman should be elected President Mr. Tilden would doubtless be the most trusted counsellor and the most honored and influential member of the new administration. But if Governor Tilden should go to St. Louis with a body of supporters strong enough to rescind the two-thirds rule there would be no further need of precautionary arrangements.

The adjournment of the Convention at eleven o'clock last night, to meet at nine this morning after a whole day spent without result by the Committee on Credentials,

shows how difficult it is to adjust the local quarrel carried to Utica from this city. On one side equity required that so large a body of democrats as acted with Morrissey last fall should receive some recognition by the Convention; but, on the other hand, the Kelly delegation is regular in form, has precedents in its favor, and showed an unflinching determination to have all its claims or nothing. Tammany has gained its point, but there may be a stormy session when the Convention reassembles this morning.

Judge Davis as the Unknown.

The temper of the newspapers from the West is that there will be no candidate nominated at either convention who will not represent the ambition of that important section of the Union. Long continued power hath made our brethren of the Mississippi Valley resolute in their ambition to control the Union. The East may pay money to build railways and develop the country and sustain expensive postal routes, but there will be no division of the power which has ruled the Union since the war began and will continue to rule it as long as Jefferson and the Virginians did in the beginning of the century. First Lincoln, then Johnson, then Grant, and now—! That is the question agitating the souls of anxious politicians, who scan the canvass with anxious eyes. However we may, as Eastern men, object to this, we may as well accept the inevitable, and consent to the election of some Western man who will be broad enough to take in the whole country.

This is the way the democrats west of the Mississippi talk. They have also before them the apparition of the labor vote of the grangers and those curious movements which threatened at one time to paralyze our politics. This leads them to consider the value of Judge Davis, of the Supreme Court, as the candidate who can carry three of the Western States—Indiana, Illinois and Ohio—without whose aid we can have no President.

So that, with the resolution of the West not to be deprived of empire, and with the evident necessity of having the aid of the three States mentioned, it would not surprise us to have David Davis, of Illinois, as the "dark horse" at St. Louis.

Louisiana Politics.

Can it be true that neither party has yet learned wisdom in Louisiana, and that each is preparing to nominate a State ticket for which no conservative citizen of either side would willingly vote? It is a melancholy story which comes to us to this effect. The republicans, it is said, mean to nominate either Warmoth or Chief Justice Ladeling for Governor, and the democrats talk of McEnery or Wiltz. Is it not time for a "new deal" down there? Have not the merchants of New Orleans, the sugar and cotton planters and other men of substance in the interior, energy and influence enough to force one of the two parties to nominate some new men, men that deserve to rule the State, and who have character, ability and moderation? It is pitiful to see so rich a State as Louisiana torn by political factions, and injured in its prosperity by the determination of politicians either corrupt or turbulent, or both, to assert their petty ambitions. Louisiana ought to be one of the richest and most prosperous States in the Union. She has all the elements of great wealth. No State, not even California, has a greater future, if only her people could rid themselves of the rule and strife of demagogues.

We warn the people of the State that they lose the sympathy of Northern men and they repel Northern capital if they cannot master their politicians. The republican party has abominably abused the State; it ought to be easy to drive out of power the thieves who have plundered it in the name of the republican party. But it can only be done by the nomination of a conservative ticket containing the names of men of known character and moderation, and not by putting forward men who, whatever their merits, are identified with scenes of violence and known as leaders of the extreme wing of their party, disliked and distrusted by the substantial citizens. We hope yet to see good counsels prevail in one party or the other in Louisiana.

The Savans in Politics.

The third party does not grow. The trouble with these savans in politics is that they support administrations until the patronage is all given out, and if they are not in the Cabinet they begin screaming "Reform!" Look how it happened in the last canvass. The reformers went over in a swarm to Grant after Greeley was nominated. What assurance have we now that there would not be the same exodus of the savans in the event of the nomination of some one who does not belong to them at St. Louis? When Napoleon went to Egypt he had with him a company of savans, whose duty it was to tell him something about everything. These savans were useful in their way. But when the fighting came it was the custom to form the troops into a hollow square and mass the savans in the centre with "the donkeys and the baggage," to keep them out of danger. We predict that when the battle begins next fall we shall find our savans in the hollow square of some republican or democratic column praying for the battle to end, no matter how it ends, and willing to go with the victors and "reform" the country at good salaries in comfortable offices. There is nothing a reformer likes so well as to "benefit society" in some good, fat, pleasant office, with time to think and little to do.

RAILWAY CONSOLIDATION IN GERMANY has become almost as great a question as was German unity a few years ago. The transfer of the railway system to the government is one of the necessities of the Empire, and it is not surprising that Prince Bismarck should be working so steadily for their consolidation under imperial auspices.

THE HORSE RAILROADS are fighting rapid transit with a bitterness to be expected from these profitable monopolies. The Sixth avenue road has obtained a temporary injunction against the Gilbert elevated road, and if the courts can be induced to help the horse car companies there will be no rapid transit. The people will jealously watch Judge Speir's action in the case now before him, as this question is one of public necessity and the highest public interest.

Let Secretary Bristow Offer a Popular Loan.

Mr. Bristow has been so remiss and derelict since the closing out of the new five per cent loan, about the middle of November, that a strong pressure of public opinion needs to be brought to bear upon him to make him more mindful of his duties. Why does the government continue to pay the exorbitant and wasteful rate of six per cent on more than a thousand millions of the national debt, when money is so abundant that it commands only four per cent for commercial loans? Why has Mr. Bristow stood idle for more than six months with so great an opportunity beckoning him to improve it before it slips away? There are but two conceivable answers—it must be owing either to the imbecility of the Secretary, or to his want of legal power to seize this great opportunity before it passes. He cannot plead lack of legal authority, for the existing statutes permit him to sell three hundred millions of four and a half per cent bonds, and allow him to expend one-half of one per cent in effecting the sale. We must, therefore, conclude that he is negligent or incompetent.

Mr. Bristow might learn a great deal from the example of the ablest of his republican predecessors. Secretary Chase acted with the self-sustaining vigor of a strong and clear intellect, and his success in providing resources for carrying on the most expensive war in history reflects shame on the feeble successors who have not shown capacity enough to save the government from paying six per cent interest, when private borrowers are paying only four per cent. A government in good credit, and in time of peace, can always borrow at less than the commercial rates, especially when its bonds are exempt from the heavy taxation which falls on all other descriptions of property. But instead of paying less than the commercial rates our government is paying two per cent more, to its own great loss and the equally great discredit of the official director of its finances.

When Secretary Chase found, in the latter part of the spring of 1863, that the five hundred million loan hung heavy on his hands without takers, he determined to offer the loan to the great body of the people, and, as everybody knows, the success of this method was immediate and magical. The great importance of the subject justifies us in repeating here the striking quotation we made yesterday from Spaulding's "Financial History of the War":—"The loan became very popular and was extensively taken by farmers, mechanics and laboring people in all the towns, villages and cities all over the country. By the 1st of July, 1863, the amount of \$168,880,250 was taken; and by the 1st of October following \$278,511,500 had been taken up; and by the 21st of January following the whole sum of \$500,000,000 had been taken at par, and the rush was so great near the closing out of the loan that nearly \$11,000,000 extra had been subscribed and paid before notice could be given to sub-agents that the amount authorized by that act had been taken up."

The Commercial Advertiser, in a careless and inconsiderate article yesterday, abounding in loose statements, tried to maintain that there was a great deal of trick and sham in the popular loans of Napoleon III. We think it needless at present to point out its errors on that subject, because we have an example in our own history, fresh in everybody's recollection, of the wonderful success of a popular loan which was entirely free from any suspicion of deceit or stratagem. What has the Commercial to say to the brilliant success of Secretary Chase in the great popular loan which he offered to the American people in 1863?

Will the British Beat Our Amateurs at the Oar?

Now that two out of the three famous British rowing Universities purpose sending crews to row in the Centennial open amateur four-oared races, and it may be announced any day that Oxford also is coming, the interest is already naturally very great in the oarsmen we will be able to bring forward to meet them and in the probable result. The best amateur four that America can muster must certainly be made up largely, if not wholly, from the present racing teams of the Atlantas and Argonauts, or of Cornell, Columbia and Dartmouth. Untried crews sometimes row very fast; but the rule is that the winning is generally done by old hands, and up to the present writing the crews named have earned front places more often than any others in America. Harvard, to be sure, beat Dartmouth at Saratoga, but she has now only one man from the crew she then had, and, though Cambridge did whip Oxford recently with a crew almost wholly new, Harvard can hardly hope for similar good fortune. While all of these crews are thoroughly alive to the great struggle in store for them, and are working hard to be as ready when the time of trial comes as they possibly can, it is far from certain that, at their best, they can keep the world's amateur championship on this side of the water. Cambridge especially is exceptionally strong, and long before her recent victory all England was very confident that she would win. Can any crew we have whip a picked four out of her renowned eight? This is the question which will ere long be in all mouths. Neither is the support she will have from Dublin to be for a moment despised. More than once at Henley have both Cambridge and Oxford learned that the little Irish University could teach them how to row, and Messrs. Pentland, Hickson and the two Barringtons, already in active training, will doubtless pull a very fast race. The London Rowing Club, or a team chosen from it, and the Royal Chester, of Liverpool, will also take excellent care at the oar, as they have often done, of England's fair name. Cambridge will outweigh any team we have, will be trained with the utmost care, and few rowing men will believe that there is anything in America that is likely to show such superb form as she did on the Putney course. If we are to win, unless our form improves amazingly during the next four months, superior endurance alone is all that will win us the laurels at the Centennial contest. But it would be far better to be beaten in such a contest than not to row it, and if in this first visit of British boating gentlemen they

beat us on our own waters, one thing is pretty certain: we will so thoroughly learn how they did it that it will be long before they can do it again.

The Logic of Operatic Failures.

Although another performance is promised the Belcoza season of Italian opera may be considered practically at an end, and that, too, under circumstances which compel the confession that it has been a failure. It is not surprising, however, that this latest endeavor of the Messrs. Strakosch should have failed. In many respects they exhibit remarkable skill as operatic managers, and but for them New York would often have been deprived of opera than has been the case since they undertook the direction of the Academy of Music. But they have failed more frequently than they succeeded, and always because they assumed that a single swallow was enough to make a summer. In 1873-4, when they gave us Nilsson, with such artists as Campanini, Capoul and Maurel to support her, together with a strong and efficient chorus and a well balanced orchestra, the season turned out to be as prosperous as it was brilliant. The Albany season failed for precisely opposite reasons, and now the Belcoza failure is still further proof that it is impossible to give operatic concert and have it accepted as opera. In the case of a very great artist, such as Titiens, for instance, the public may be willing to accept operatic surroundings as preferable to the cold and barren concert stage, but Mlle. Belcoza cannot expect to find herself in that position for many years to come. The young prima donna is a very good artist; but, while she possesses both culture and talent, it is impossible that she should bear upon her own shoulders the whole weight of an operatic season. She has been unfortunate in this country, but she has done herself no discredit, and under more favorable circumstances she would secure in this city and in this country a complete triumph. This can only be, however, when she is properly supported and not tried beyond her strength. But to ask the public to go to the Academy simply to hear Mlle. Belcoza is to ask what they will not do. If Mr. Wallack managed his theatre on any such principle we should soon have no Wallack's Theatre. In dramatic management we see one house after another closed because of insufficient attraction. Indeed, the two extremes seem to meet, and we have no vaudeville theatre for exactly the same reason that we have little successful opera. In proof of this we have only to point to the fact that the Lyceum Theatre is empty, though a little real talent behind the footlights would secure full benches in front. So, too, at the Academy. Real opera will always fill the Irving place opera house, while the pinchbeck article will ruin everybody connected with it. We trust that at last Messrs. Strakosch have learned the logic of operatic failures and that they will take their latest mishap so much to heart as to avoid in the future all the causes which have led to it. What we want is opera, not operatic concert—a perfect ensemble, not one or two good artists supported by a bundle of sticks. We shall look to them and to Mr. Mapleson, if he brings a company here, to give us this, and if they do it they may rest assured that the New York public will support them.

The Labor Movement in the West.

The "friends of the laboring man" are not dead by any means, but waiting for their opportunity. We know the importance of this diversion when we consider the value of the labor question in the last canvass against John Kelly. What defeated John Kelly was the fact that he was paying creatures like Tom Dunlap large salaries while he cut down the wages of the laboring man on the Boulevard to a dollar and sixty cents a day. We cannot underestimate the importance of such a cry in the country at large. We have as eloquent a man as Wendell Phillips and as bold a man as General Butler waiting to raise the standard of labor. Consequently, when the democrats of Illinois talk about Judge Davis, of Illinois, now a member of the Supreme Court, as the one candidate who can carry this vote, and who can also carry the States of Illinois, Indiana and Ohio, we have a problem presented which contains in its solution the elements of victory.

The Question of Reconstruction in the South.

The question of reconstruction in the South is an important one, but not so important as the question of reconstructing the relations between capital and labor. That is a question as interesting to the laboring man in the cotton fields of Alabama as in the wheat fields of Pennsylvania—to the black man and the white man. If Judge Davis comes as the representative of this sentiment he may become the champion of the democracy, the winning horse in the great race, the "great unknown" who is so carefully studied by political philosophers all over the country. The fact that the Judge was a republican would have some value as an argument against him if the democratic party did not need to conciliate republicans enough to elect their ticket.

THE GREAT METROPOLITAN STAKES, among other events, was run yesterday at the Epsom spring racing meeting. It had seven starters, and Prince Soltykoff's New Holland proved the winner. Mr. Sanford's American horse Bay Final was in the field, and though he made a creditable fight for two miles, finished nearly last.

THE GEORGIA DELEGATES to the Democratic National Convention are reported as more favorable to Tilden than to any of the candidates named for the St. Louis nomination. As these delegates were chosen in the Congress districts, and not by a State convention, their sentiments may be accepted as indicating Southern feeling and as foreshadowing the nomination of either Tilden or Bayard.

A RIGHTeous VERDICT is that found against Matthew P. Bemis and William Van Name in the suit to recover money taken from the Market Savings Bank and lost in stock speculations in 1863. The case shows the utter disregard of honor in business which characterizes the management of many of our banking institutions, and it reveals one of the most remarkable and disgraceful episodes of the kind ever brought before a court of justice.

Brotherly Love in Politics.

This campaign is so dark and bitter that any indication of harmony will be welcomed. Nothing is more pleasant, for instance, than the manner in which the democratic candidates treat each other. When we hear Bayard talk about Tilden or Tilden about Thurman; when we hear the Sage of Oneida, Seymour, in a prolonged interview, how sweet and fraternal is their conversation! All is love, appreciation and brotherly harmony. In fact, it seems as if there would be some difficulty about the democrats making a nomination, each candidate seems to be so anxious to decline in favor of another. More than all, the democratic newspapers protect their candidates, while the republican journals delight in nothing so much as in destroying a republican leader. See how tenderly the Word shields Pendleton from the consequences of his iniquity, and how we have never a word calculated to smear the party. The republican candidates are, on the other hand, quarrelling like so many mastiffs in a dog pit. They spend their time in setting up dynamite machines for each other. Blaine is to blow up Morton, and Conkling is to destroy Bristow, and so they all go! Washburne will have nothing to do with Conkling, and Blaine has not spoken to him for years. Could anything be more beautiful than this democratic love or more painful than this republican antagonism!

THE CENTENNIAL COMMISSION was in session yesterday, and there are some indications that its meetings will not promote harmony in the management of the Exposition. So far as appears on the surface at least the work of erecting the Centennial buildings and preparing for the Exhibition has been intelligently and efficiently done, and any factious opposition in the commission at this late day would be as unworthy as it is unnecessary. What the American people want now is to make the Exhibition a success in every way, and nothing must be done in the commission or out of it to mar the fortunes of this great enterprise.

BARRADOS is quiet, and we hear that since last Saturday not a single white man has been injured by a negro. All the stories of war which came from that sunny island turn out to be exaggerations, and for the future we may expect Mr. John Pope Hennessy's government to be as placid as the waters of the Caribbean Sea.

BRISTOW'S TRIUMPH in the Massachusetts Republican Convention at Boston yesterday will give the Secretary of the Treasury great prestige at Cincinnati. With the exception of Judge Hoar all the delegates at large are his friends, and Judge Hoar is not likely to oppose the sentiment of his State if Mr. Bristow's nomination is possible.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN ENGLAND, as in the United States, is annually voted down by the men who have authority to pass upon it by virtue of men's votes; but if women were allowed to determine the question for themselves the majority against it would be even more overwhelming than that in the British Parliament last night. In both countries it might be well to dispense with the annual farce for a few years at least.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Grant organs are always cabinet organs. Red peppers and salt pork are good for canaries. Walter Scott, the great novelist, was a firm friend. To raise the wind—get up a syndicate for a cyclone. Four hundred million Chinamen set with a one-sided fork.

The Khedive of Egypt is forty-five, and has four wives.

The Buffalo Republican, a German paper, supports Conkling.

The Baltimore American thinks that Tilden has no strength outside of New York.

Prince Lucien Bonaparte, grandnephew of Napoleon, is writing papers on the English dialects.

Kurd Von Scholler, German Minister at Washington, arrived in the city last evening and is at the Brevoort House.

Democratic Randall says that Republican Blaine "has not left his enemies a single peg to stand upon." But to hang upon?

Nominating conventions have less to do with the public pulse this year than they have had any year since the foundation of the Republic.

Charles Austin has been assigned to the Philadelphia Exposition to represent the London Press.

Mr. Austin served the Times in Paris during the Commune and afterward in Spain during the Castelar Republic. He is a fellow of St. John's College, Oxford, and one of the most brilliant members of the London Press.

Dr. Hall says:—"Take something to eat as soon as you wake up." Doctor, it isn't easy to do. The American way is to get up, turn the water pitcher just over your mouth, lose your hold, drench yourself, crawl back, turn over on your right side, and say, "Yer call me? Well, there's a wish."

Somebody accuses us of having plagiarized the recent paragraph, "Lettime have peace," and ascribes it to Charles Dudley Warner. We did not do it intentionally; it was only a case of great misdeed running in the same river bottom, and if other editors will only be as honest as we are, half the papers of the country will be begging pardon of this column.

New Orleans Republicans.—"You see," said the despondent man, "some people have good luck and some people have no luck. Now, I remember, once I was walking along the street with Tom Fellick and he went down one side of it and I went down on the other. We had to get more than half way down when he found a pocket book with \$216 in it and I stepped on a woman's dress and got acquainted with my present wife."

Get up at five o'clock in the morning and tell your wife you are going to dig in the garden, and breakfast on oatmeal mush, and get healthy and strong. As she stands looking on and admiring your physical strength, and you are sure you can never spade up another row without fainting, ask her why she don't go in and get the shad tied, and then you can sneak out of the back gate for a cocktail. Always make your good resolutions in spring time.